Staff Memorandum

To	Mayor A. Nuttall, Deputy Mayor R. Thomson and Members of Council
Subject	May Programming and Events
Date	April 29,2026
Ward	All
From	K. Datema, Director of Recreation and Culture Services
Executive Member Approval	J. Schmidt, General Manager of Community and Corporate Services
CAO Approval	M. Prowse, Chief Administrative Officer

We are pleased to share an overview of the extensive range of programs, events, and community partnerships taking place across the City of Barrie throughout the month of May. These initiatives reflect our department's ongoing commitment to community wellbeing, inclusion, cultural vitality, and active living.

May is a particularly active month for recreation, culture, and community engagement across the City, with a robust schedule of programs, festivals, sporting events, and charitable initiatives taking place at municipal facilities and outdoor spaces.

National Youth Week (May 1- 7) is celebrated city-wide with special programming, including public skating and youth-focused activities at recreation centres. Community wellness and environmental stewardship are highlighted through initiatives such as tree planting events, nature-based programming, awareness walks, and multiple charity runs and walks supporting organizations related to mental health, hospice care, MS, cystic fibrosis, food security, and youth services.

May also features a diverse range of **festivals and cultural celebrations**, including Indigenous and Métis events, Ukrainian Vyshyvanka Day, Latin Festival activities, Red Dress Day, arts-based celebrations, and community markets. These events activate key public spaces such as Meridian Place, Centennial Park, Heritage Park, the Spirit Catcher, and Memorial Square contributing to vibrant downtown and neighbourhood engagement.

The City's recreation facilities continue to be heavily utilized with **sport tournaments, dance competitions, swim meets, and league play**, including Special Olympics events, lacrosse tournaments, baseball games, soccer festivals, and OFSAA rugby championships. These activities bring significant community participation and regional visitation to Barrie.

Theatre and performance venues remain active with a full slate of **concerts, comedy, dance recitals, college events, and community productions** at the Georgian Theatre and Five Points Theatre. In addition, several programs are designed specifically for older adults, including social events, tournaments, educational programs, and caregiver-focused nature initiatives.

Overall, May's programming reflects the City's commitment to inclusivity, health and wellness, arts and culture, sport tourism, environmental awareness, and community connection. These events contribute positively to quality of life for residents while supporting local organizations, volunteers, and partners.

Appendix:

Appendix A – May Event Programming

Memo Author:

J.Yap, Supervisor of Admin Recreation and Culture

File #:

N/A

Pending #:

N/A

Appendix A: May Programming and Events

MONTH of MAY		
SPECIAL EVENTS & PROGRAMS		
May 1-7	All Community Centers	National Youth Week
May 2	Allandale Station Park	Steps for Life 5km Walk presented by Threads of Life
May 2	Shalom Park	Living Green Community Tree Planting presented by Living Green Barrie
May 2-6	Allandale Recreation C.C.	Youth Week Skating offerings of Public Skating, Stick and Puck
Every Saturday	City Hall Courtyard	Barrie Farmer's Market
May 3	Memorial Square, Sprit Catcher, Dunlop Street	'Battle Of The Atlantic Parade presented by Navy League Of Canada
May 3	Sunnidale Park & Dorian Parker Center	"Hike & Bike for Hospice" presented by Hospice Simcoe
May 3	Allandale Recreation C.C.	Barrie South Simcoe Metis Council Red Dress Day Event
May 3	General John Hayter Southshore Centre	Kids Help Phone-Walk so Kids Can Talk
May 4	East Bayfield C.C.	Lego Sense-Try it Event
May 9	Meridian Place	Awareness Walk For Maternal Mental Health presented by Canadian Perinatal Mental Health Collaborative
May 9	Lampman Lane Community Center	VOLT Hockey-Try It Event
May 9	Allandale Recreation Centre	Nagasafest-National Garage Sales Fest
May 9	Sprit Catcher	World Migratory Bird Day - Big Sit presented by City Of Barrie
May 9	General John Hayter Southshore Centre	Latin Festival Event
May 9	Centennial Park	Kicking PancreAS 5k presented by Craig's Cause
May 9	Sprit Catcher	Forest Bathing With Beth presented by City Of Barrie

May 14	Centennial Park, Lion's Pavillion	Birthday Party Of The Arts House presented by The Arts House
May 15	Peggy Hill CC	Inclusion-Youth Holiday Party "Spring Fling"
May 17	Meridian Place	Ukrainian Vyshyvanka Day Festival presented by Ukrainian National Federation Barrie-Simcoe
May 20 & 27	Heritage Park	Barrie Thunder Classics Cruise Night
May 25	East Bayfield CC	Lego Sense-Try it Event
May 27	Allandale Station, Lakeshore Drive	Rotary Fun Run & Walk presented by Rotary Club Of Barrie
May 31	Heritage Park	Barrie MS Walk presented by MS Society Of Canada
May 31	St. Vincent Park	Walk to Make Cystic Fibrosis History presented by Kinsmen Club Of Barrie & Cystic Fibrosis Foundation
55+ ACTIVITIES		
May 2	Parkview Centre	GLK Collectible
May 12	Allandale Recreation C.C.	Dart Tournament
May 12	Parkview Centre	Parkview C.C. Craft Show
May 12	Parkview Centre	Mother's Day Luncheon
May 29	Parkview Centre	Get Back in Nature-Program Care Partners and Older Adults Navigating Dementia and Fraility
OUTDOOR RECREATION		
May 2	Barrie Community Sports Complex	"Homeruns for the Hungry" hosted by Barrie Food Bank
May 3-4	Barrie Community Sports Complex	Barrie Ultimate Tournament
May 14,21,23,30	Barrie Community Sports Complex	Barrie Baycats Home Games
May 16	Barrie Community Sports Complex	Slo-Pitch 4 Special Olympics Tournament
May 23-24	Barrie Community Sports Complex	BMBA Tournament
May-23-24	Barrie Community Sports Complex	Spirit Fest hosted by Barrie Soccer Club
May 30	Barrie Community Sports Complex	Barrie Slo Pitch Assocation Tournament
May 31	Barrie Community Sports Complex	OFSAA Rugby
IN THE POOL		
May 2-3	East Bayfield CC	Spring off the Blocks Swim meet hosted by Barrie Trojan Swim Club

AT THE THEATRE		
May 1-2	Georgian Theatre	'"Bravado Does Broadway" presented by Bravado Show Choir
May 1	Five Points Theatre	Soiree Humour avec Fraincois Massicotte presented by La Cle
May 6	Five Points Theatre	'"Canvas and Creativity: Spring Paint Night" presented by the City of Barrie
May 6	Georgian Theatre	'"Nurse Pinning" a Georgian College event
May 7	Georgian Theatre	"Real Love: Kenny and Dolly Tribute" presented by Beach Towel Promotions
May 8	Georgian Theatre	'"The Lightfoot Band" in support of Gilda's Club
May 9	Five Points Theatre	"Never Been Better Tour" presented by Alex Mackenzie
May 9	Georgian Theatre	“Hotel California” presented by Major Talent Inc
May 13	Five Points Theatre	'"Battle of the Books" presented by the Barrie Public Library
May 13	Georgian Theatre	'"President's Town Hall" - Georgian College event
May 19	Georgian Theatre	"Celebration iof Dance" presented by Simcoe Contemporary Dancers
May 22-23	Five Points Theatre	'"Happily Ever After School" presented by MIMPA
May 24	Georgian Theatre	"X-HIBITION" dance recitals presented by X Dance
May 30	Georgian Theatre	"Elite Danceworks" dance recitals
May 31	Georgian Theatre	'"Somewhere over the Rainbow" dance recital presented by Kreative Dance
IN THE ARENA		
May 1-3	East Bayfield CC	"Destiny Dance Competition" hosted by Destiny Dance
May 1-3	Peggy Hill CC	Alliston Gymnastics Competition
May 7-8	Peggy Hill CC	Beauty Roadshow
May 20-23	Sadlon Arena	View Dance Challenge
May 22-24	Eastview Arena	Inked Circus 2026
May 29-31	East Bayfield CC PeggyHill CC	Barrie Minor Lacrosse Tournament